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DEPARTMENT FOR: Assistant to MD/I (NSC)

SUBJECT: Draft Paper for the DCI's Briefing to the NSC on
the Soviet Civil Defense Program

1. In accordance with Mr. Anory's instructions, we have prepared a paper on the Soviet civil defense program which can provide the basis for the Director's briefing to the NSC on Thursday of this week.

2. While the principal focus of this paper is on the Soviet shelter program, there are a number of paragraphs in the first part of this paper which, as I indicated to you this morning, cover civil defense training and which you might choose to eliminate as irrelevant. They were inserted primarily to put the shelter program in some context and to refute the rather clear implications of the American Embassy, Moscow, cable 896 of 4 November 1957, that such training activities were not taking place on any significant scale.

3. While it is obviously impossible to refute point by point the American Embassy, Moscow, observations in their cable 1250 of 9 January, we feel the paper very clearly contradicts the implications of the sentence in the first paragraph of that cable, which states that the Embassy has observed no signs of a Soviet program to construct shelters.

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4. OEM personnel knowledgeable on this subject have held three meetings within the past four days with Department of State intelligence specialists who are as satisfied with our attached draft as it is

State Dept. review completed

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possible for them to be in the absence of any detailed research in this field on their part. Their very carefully drawn comments on this paper are attached in Tab C.

5. We have omitted reference to the number of people in the Soviet urban population who will probably have shelter protection by 1960. You will recall that this figure was previously given in our 5 November paper for the NSC. We are perfectly willing to have a figure of this magnitude used again. However, this is an extremely rough calculation and might be difficult to defend before a reluctant and critical audience, and we, therefore, felt that the Director might prefer to have this omitted from the briefing. Moreover, the figures which are presented outlining the general extent of shelter coverage as it now stands and stressing that this program is continuing are impressive and perhaps should not be undermined by less defensible figures estimating future coverage. However, I repeat we will play this anyway you think best suits the DCI's purposes.

6. We hope to have the additional paper which you requested outlining some of the substantiating evidence late this afternoon or early tomorrow morning. In any event, [redacted] will have this material available in draft form if it is necessary for the Director's briefing this afternoon or late today. The exhibits should be available by noon tomorrow.

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[redacted]
Deputy Assistant Director
Research and Reports

Enclosures:

1. Tab A -- Briefing Paper on "The Soviet Civil Defense Program"
2. Tab B -- Department of State cables #733, #695, and #1210.
3. Tab C -- Department of State memorandum, 14 January 1958.

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